

**MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP**

Attorneys at Law  
755 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, California 94304-1018  
Telephone: (650) 813-5600  
Facsimile: (650) 494-0792

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
DEC 20 2004

**To:**

NAME:	FACSIMILE:	TELEPHONE:
Commissioner for Patents US Patent and Trademark Office	(703) 872-9306	

**FROM:** Thomas Chan**DATE:** December 20, 2004

Number of pages with cover page:	5
----------------------------------	---

Preparer of this slip has confirmed that facsimile number given is correct: 7122/Kerry Keehan**CAUTION - CONFIDENTIAL**3<sup>25</sup>

This facsimile contains confidential information which may also be privileged. Unless you are the addressee (or authorized to receive for the addressee), you may not copy, use, or distribute it. If you have received it in error, please advise Morrison & Foerster LLP immediately by telephone or facsimile and return it promptly by mail.

**Comments:**

Attorney Docket No.: 188122001500  
Group Art Unit: 2183  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Application No. 10/724,277  
Filed: November 26, 2003  
Inventor(s): Bruce W. MCGAUGHY et al.  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SIMULATING A CIRCUIT HAVING HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE  
Papers Attached:

1. Transmittal Form (1 page)
2. First Preliminary Amendment (3 pages)

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

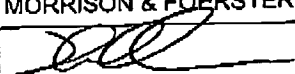
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031


U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/724,277	
	Filing Date	November 26, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Bruce W. MCGAUGHY	
	Art Unit	2183	
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	188122001500

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply (3 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Facsimile Cover Sheet
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP (Customer No. 25226)		
Signature			
Printed name	Thomas Chan		
Date	December 20, 2004	Reg. No.	51,543

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9306, on the date shown below.	
Dated: December 20, 2004	Signature:  (Kerry C. Keahan)

DEC 20 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9306, on the date shown below.

Dated: 12/20/04

Signature:

(Kerry Keenan)

Docket No.: 188122001500  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Bruce W. MCGAUGHY et al.

Application No.: 10/724,277

Confirmation No.: 1262

Filed: November 26, 2003

Art Unit: 2183

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SIMULATING  
A CIRCUIT HAVING HIERARCHICAL  
STRUCTURE**

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

pa-942623